

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Fr. Kenneth Hoelsing, Priest in Res. / Fr. Craig Clinch, Parish Admin.

MARCH 1, 2026

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

Mailing Address PO Box 70 Harvard, NE 68944	Street Address 611 N. Kearney Ave. Harvard, NE 68944	Rectory Phone 402-772-3511
Parish Website: https://www.st-joseph-harvard.com/		
Parish email address: st.joseph.cc.hrverd.ne@gmail.com		

This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Mar 2	Mon			
Mar 3	Tues	7:30 am	+Steven Johnson	
		7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Mar 4	Wed	7:30 am	+Marie Borino	
Mar 5	Thur	7:30 am	All Souls (STM)	
Mar 6	Fri	7:30 am		
Mar 7	Sat			3rd Sunday in Lent
Mar 8	Sun	9:00 am	Greg Almond family	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$516.00
--------------------------------------	-----------------

St. Joseph Prayer Chain

A special intention	George Hoffmeister	Cecilia Meeza	Tony Stec
Dan Adler (Sem)	Jim Jackson	Alyssa O.	Shannon Tebo
Andrea Ainsworth	Cathy Kamost	Brad Oschner	Ryan Urbanosky family
Bill Alexander	Bill Kerber	Salvador Palas	Angel Valdivia
Wayne Alley	Kim Kneuvan	Fr. Allan Phan	Landon Van Boening
Greg Almond	Shirley Koenig	Sharon Reasland	Garry Veik
Pete Bartels	Erica Lauinger	Dennis Reddick	The Verde family
Shawna Back	Rita Mach	Nancy Sapp	Teresa Volesky
Randy Chloupek	Cecilia Martel	Randy Schulte	Diane Walz & family
Kelem Fabrice	Shirley McCabe	Jody Schulte	Edith Weber
Cesaria Gabriel		Juan Slazar	

If you have any intentions you would like to add to the prayer chain, call Elaine Almond (402-224-0732) or Shirley Koenig (402-984-0692).

Parish News & Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Stations of the Cross:** There will be Stations of the Cross this week on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Please come and join in this Lenten devotion.
- ◆ **Thanks to Fr. Clinch for covering Masses last weekend:** Thanks to Fr. Clinch for celebrating Sunday Masses here in my absence. It was good to have you here again!
- ◆ **Special collection thanks:** Last weekend a special collection was taken up for the Diocese of Columbo in Sri Lanka (at the request of Bishop Conley). This was taken to assist them with severe damage from flooding last November into December. \$468.00 was raised from this special collection. Thanks to everyone for your generosity in helping with this!
- ◆ **Holy Father Prayer Intention for March:** For Migrants and Refugees – That displaced persons may find welcome, protection, and opportunities to rebuild their lives with dignity.



◆ **February was Catholic Press Month in the Diocese of Lincoln:** February was Catholic Press month. If you did not get your donation in for the \$15.00 fee we pay for your Southern Nebraska Register subscription, you can turn it in at any time. Thanks to everyone who helped out so far!

◆ **Harvard Lenten Ecumenical Service at St. Joseph's this Sunday!** The annual Harvard Lenten Ecumenical Service will be hosted by our parish this year. *This will take place this evening, Sunday, March 1, at 6:00 p.m.* Please come and spread the word.

◆ **Hastings Deanery Holy Hour for Peace:** A Holy Hour for peace will take place this Sunday, March 1, at 3:30 pm at St. Cecilia's in Hastings. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a Rosary for Peace, time for quiet prayer, and confession. The Holy Hour concludes with Vespers w/ Benediction at 4:30 p.m. Please join us for an hour of prayer as a Deanery, responding to Bishop Conley's call for prayer in our diocese, made at the request of Archbishop Paul Coakley, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

◆ **KC Fish Fries in Hastings:** The St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Fish Fries will take place every Friday in Lent (except for Good Friday) at Centennial Hall at St. Cecilia's in Hastings. They will serve from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Cost is \$16.00 for adults with a maximum family cost of \$65.00.

◆ **Daylight Savings Time begins next weekend:** Next weekend will mark the end of Standard Time and begin Daylight Savings Time. Be prepared to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

◆ Thanks to those who have donated items to Peoples' Project/Food Pantry: Thanks to everyone who has donated food items to the Food Pantry for distribution to those who are in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Just a reminder...please check the expiration date on food items before donating them!

◆ Seminarian of the Week: The seminarian of the week is Nicholas Hanus. He is a parishioner of St. Joseph parish in Lincoln. He entered the seminary in 2022. His parents are William and Cynthia Hanus. He attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.

◆ Fat Tuesday pancake supper update: Thanks to everyone who helped with this event. The profit, after expenses, was \$312.00. This has been deposited in the Peoples' Project account.

Becoming white as light

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. Matthew 17:1-2

What a fascinating line above: "white as light." How white is something that is "white as light?"

On this the second week of Lent, we are given the hopeful image of Jesus being transfigured before the eyes of Peter, James and John. They witness a small glimpse of His eternal glory and radiance as the Son of God and the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity. They are stunned, in awe, amazed and filled with the greatest joy. Jesus' face shines like the sun and His clothing is so white, so pure, so radiant that they shine as the brightest and most pure light imaginable.

Why did this happen? Why did Jesus do this and why did He permit these three Apostles to see this glorious event? And to ponder further, why do we reflect upon this scene in the beginning of Lent?

Simply put, Lent is a time to examine our lives and to see our sins most clearly. It's a time we are given each year to pause from the confusion of life and to reexamine the road we are on. Looking at our sins can be hard. It can be depressing and can tempt us to depression, hopelessness and even despair. But the temptation to despair must be overcome. And it is not overcome by ignoring our sin, rather, it is overcome by turning our eyes to the power and glory of God.

The Transfiguration is an event given to these three Apostles to give them hope as they prepare to face the suffering and death of Jesus. They are given this glimpse of glory and hope as they prepare to see Jesus embrace their sins and endure the consequences.

If we face sin without hope, we are doomed. But if we face sin (our sin) with a remembrance of Who Jesus is and what He has done for us, then facing our sin will lead us not into despair but into victory and glory.

As the Apostles looked on and saw Jesus transfigured, they heard a voice from Heaven say, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Mt. 17:5b). The Father spoke this of Jesus, but He also desires to speak it of each one of us. We need to see in the Transfiguration the end and goal of our lives. We need to know, with the deepest conviction, that the Father desires to transform us into the whitest light, lifting all sin, and bestowing upon us the great dignity of being a true son or daughter of Him.

Reflect, today, upon your sin. But do so as you also reflect upon the transfigured and glorious nature of our divine Lord. He came to bestow this gift of holiness on each one of us. This is our calling. This is our dignity. This is who we must become, and the only way to do so is to allow God to cleanse us of every sin in our lives and to draw us into His glorious life of grace.

My transfigured Lord, You shone in radiance before the eyes of Your Apostles so that they could testify to the beauty of the life to which we are all called. During this Lent, help me to face my sin with courage and confidence in You and in Your power to not only forgive but to also transform. My I die to sin more deeply than ever before so as to share more fully in the glory of Your divine life. Jesus, I trust in You.

